

FORTY - NINTH

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

of the

U R B A N S A N I T A R Y A U T H O R I T Y

of the

C I T Y O F W O R C E S T E R

Y E A R 1922.

THE FORTY-NINTH REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, BEING THAT FOR
THE YEAR 1922.

To the Urban Sanitary Authority of the
City and County of Worcester.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1922, being the 52nd Annual Report I have made to the City Council.

The Ministry of Health in a circular letter dated 28th December, 1921, advised that annual reports should not be of too detailed a character, and gave an outline of the information required in each Annual Report. The Health Committee agreed to these suggestions of the Ministry.

The Registrar General, from the beginning of 1922, has regrouped in his reports the cities and towns of the Kingdom, and Worcester is now classed among the 105 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London). Only five of these towns had less than 50,000 inhabitants at the last census.

There are no comments necessary on the Statistics of the year, with the exception of the infant deathrate. Only once, in 1920, during the last 6 years has the rate been so high. In this year as in 1920, 50% of the infant deaths occur during the first 4 weeks of life. This loss of life can only be checked by greater care of the Mother during pregnancy, and more adequate management of the weakly and premature infants by the Midwives.

The rationing of the amount of grant paid by the Ministry of Health was continued through 1922. With every care taken to see that only necessitous Mothers and children were granted meals and milk at less than cost price, the rationed amount was insufficient for the City's needs. The Health Committee having knowledge of the local conditions, allowed the expenditure of the larger sum that was proposed to be spent when the estimates for the year were made.

The urgent need of many more houses being built is agreed to on all hands. No community can expect to be healthy under the conditions now existing. If money is not spent on housing now, more will need to be spent in the future on weakly children, sickness benefits, hospital treatment and poor relief.

3.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Ralph Taylor has done his work excellently during the year, and has been ably supported by the two assistant Inspectors.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

MABYN READ.

18th May, 1923.



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GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres	3662
Population, 1921	49,240
Number of inhabited Houses (Census figures not available)	11,350
Rateable Value	....	....	....	....	....	£278,020
Sum represented by ld rate			....	....	....	£1,062

^x Average of the 105
County Boroughs and
Great Towns.

General Death-rate per 1,000 of the population	13.5	13.0
Tuberculosis (all kinds) Do	....	1.15
Typhoid Fever	....	Do
Measles	....	Do
Scarlet Fever	....	Do
Diphtheria	....	Do
Whooping Cough	....	Do
Influenza	....	Do
Infant Death rate per 1,000 births	67.0	82.0
Diarrhoea & Enteritis Death Rate per 1,000 births (Under 2 years)	....	4.1

In Table I the figures of the death rate and infant death rate for 10 years will be seen, and in Table II the various causes of the Infant deaths are given.

^x Taken from report of the Registrar General.

POPULATION - The Registrar General has estimated the population of the City in the middle of 1922 as 49,240. This estimate "has been based on the adjusted 1921 figures, after allowance for the varying rate of natural increase as evidenced by the births and deaths in each area, and of migration as indicated by other sources of information such as the changes in the numbers on the Parliamentary Register and the migration returns obtained by the Board of Trade."

THE BIRTHRATE was 19.8 per 1,000 of the population. During the last 10 years, this rate has been exceeded 5 times. (See Table I).

The Birthrate for England & Wales was 20.6 and that for the 105 County Boroughs and large towns (including London) among which Worcester is classed, was 21.4.

The Births numbered 975, 511 males and 464 females. Of this number 35 were illegitimate births.

THE DEATHRATE was 13.5 per 1,000. This rate has been exceeded 4 times during the last 10 years (See Table I. Col.13). The death rate for England & Wales was 12.9 and that for the 105 towns was 13.0. There were 3.2 deaths from Epidemic Influenza, and an increase of deaths from lung diseases, as compared with the two previous years, which will account for the higher deathrate.

THE INFANT DEATHRATE, calculated at per 1,000 births was 67. The rate for the previous 5 years averaged 62. It is very disappointing to see this rate go up.

The rate for England & Wales was 77 and that for the 105 towns was 82.

In 1921 the Infant deathrate was 60, which low rate had only been equalled once before, namely in 1918. In the Statistical Review of 1921, recently issued by the Registrar General, the Infant death rates of all the County Boroughs are given. There were 4 County Boroughs with lower rates, namely, Canterbury (49) Hastings (53) Oxford (37) Southend-on-Sea (57) and one, Reading, having the same rate as Worcester. This position was very creditable for an ancient City such as Worcester.

Of the 65 infant deaths, 22 were in the first week of life, and 32 within the first 4 weeks. This proportion, being 50%, is larger than in previous years. Four of the deaths were two pair of twins prematurely born.

The fact that so many babies are born who die within a month is very lamentable. Poverty, anxiety and overcrowding, together furnish conditions disastrous to infant life, and these conditions also react very unfavourably on the older children from 1 to 5 years minimising their power of resistance to all diseases. The excellent work of providing meals for expectant mothers, which is carried out at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre in Lowesmoor, has greatly helped the necessitous women, and the babies subsequently born, have

shown the benefits of the meals given to the Mothers. The sum expended in this way during the year was about £250, less than a farthing rate.

THE HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION OF THE CITY remains the same as was detailed in previous reports. If the financial position of the General Infirmary allowed all the Wards to be used, the hospital accommodation would be ample for the needs of the district.

THE CITY WATER SUPPLY. - Through the whole year the results of the weekly bacteriological examination of the filtered water have been excellent. The Micro-organisms per c.c. on three days culture have rarely exceeded 50. On only 3 occasions have any B. Coli been detected in 100 c.c.

Two new filter beds have been constructed, one being 2,660 sq. yards in area, and the other 1,414 sq. yards. These, when available for use will greatly add to the efficiency of the water filtration.

There are also in course of construction two service reservoirs, one for the high level and one for the low level supply.

The Sewerage system has been extended along Lansdowne Road under the Canal for a distance of 186 yards, and up the Tolladine Road for 949 yards. This allows the houses along these roads to be properly drained, greatly to the advantage of the health of the tenants.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Ralph Taylor, has furnished the following information of work done during the year:-

ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES. - For the abatement of nuisances of various kinds 2391 Request Notices were served upon Owners, or Occupiers, and in 754 instances it was found necessary to obtain instructions from your Health Committee to serve Statutory Notices.

Further, in consequence of the Statutory Notices not being complied with, your Committee ordered me to take legal proceedings in 44 cases, but it is satisfactory to report that only one Summons was taken out, as the work required to be done was put in hand after the written intimation of the intended proceedings had been sent to the persons concerned

Summary of Work done during 1922.

No. of Notices (Preliminary) issued	2391
" " " (Statutory) "	754
" " Complaints received and investigated	304
" " Letters sent with regard to Notices, &c.,	965
" " Notices sent to Schools <u>re</u> Infectious Diseases	251
Rooms cleansed and limewashed	454
Dilapidated walls, floors, windows, &c., repaired	317
Defective roofs and spouting repaired	271
Damp walls cured	85
Wash-houses repaired, cleansed and limewashed	162
" " floors and yards repaved and repaired	50
Glazed stoneware sinks fixed	28
Sink waste and rainwater pipes disconnected from drain	29
Drains opened and cleansed	90
Defective drains repaired or reconstructed	49
Glazed stoneware gulley traps fixed	56
Water closets repaired, cleansed and limewashed	102
" " flushing tanks repaired	103
" " provided with new basins and traps	32
Defective joints in pans, traps and flush pipes repaired	53
Nuisances from overcrowding abated	6
" " improper keeping of animals	25
Accumulation of manure removed	14
Houses provided with proper water supply	16
Sanitary Dustbins provided	1508
Miscellaneous	195
Waste of Water reported to Water Inspector	26
No. of references to City Engineer with regard to dangerous buildings, paving of Courts and foul street gullies	18
Emptying of ashpits and dustbins referred to Streets Superintendent	12
Rooms disinfected after infectious disease	272
Samples of food and drugs collected for City Analyst	153
" " tap and well water " " "	19

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT - At the end of the year there were 251 Workshops, not including Bakehouses, on our Register.

Five new Workshops have been added during the year, 7 have been struck off, 5 having given up, and 2 converted into Factories.

After calling the attention of the persons responsible, the following defects have been remedied :-

Want of cleanliness	...	...	...	3
Defective Drains	...	...	...	2
Defective Floors	...	...	...	1
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation	..	...	...	3

One Notice was received from His Majesty's Inspector of Factories relative to the defective sanitary conveniences at a factory. The necessary alterations were carried out after writing to the owners.

There were 48 occupied Bakehouses in the City at the end of December, 1922, and these were generally kept in fair order.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES. - At the end of 1922 there were 9 registered Common Lodging Houses in the City.

Of these, 3 are in Dolday, 2 in Copenhagen Street, and one in each of the following streets :- Lich Street, Quay Street, Newport Street, and South Quay. They give accommodation to 161 Lodgers.

Five of the keepers of the Lodging Houses are licensed annually under section 69 of the Public Health Amendment Act, 1907.

During the year 126 visits were made to the premises, and, with one exception, the houses were kept in a cleanly state, and were lime-washed throughout during the months of April and October.

Night visits were made to several of the houses, and very little over-crowding of the rooms was found.

The accommodation provided in the City for casuals is ample.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS. - There has been no increase in the number of registered houses let in lodgings, the number still remaining at eleven.

The houses have received frequent visits, and the bye-laws regulating them have been well observed.

OFFENSIVE TRADES. - One Fellmonger, 5 Tripe Boilers, 1 Gut Scraper and 10 Fish Friers made application for the renewal of permission to carry on Offensive Trades, under Section 112 of the Public Health Act, 1875, and consent was given, subject to the conditions mentioned in the Form of application.

There are also 2 Fellmongers, 1 Gut Scraper, 2 Hide, Skin, & Fat Dealers, 6 Rag & Bone Dealers, and 17 Fish Friers, whose trades were established previous to the Public Health Act, 1875, or to the Order made under Section 51, of the Public Health Amendment Act, 1907.

The premises have received frequent visits, and considering the offensive nature of the trades, they have been fairly well conducted.

Several complaints were received of offensive smells arising from one of the Fellmongers, and after investigation, the nuisance complained of was satisfactorily dealt with.

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES. - 25 Private Slaughterhouses were in use at the end of the year.

One slaughterhouse in Lowesmoor was allowed to be re-opened, your Council having granted a license for 5 years, as a licensed slaughterhouse.

Two changes of occupation of slaughterhouses were notified, and 7 slaughterhouses have not been in use during the year.

From time to time complaints have been received of the nuisance from the bleating of calves and the removal of garbage from the slaughter houses, and these matters have been dealt with as far as possible, but so long as the law allows these old slaughterhouses to exist in populated districts, the inhabitants have to put up with such nuisances.

Frequent visits have been made to the Slaughterhouses to see that the bye-laws are complied with, and to inspect as far as possible the meat killed therein.

During the year your Committee have had under consideration the question of the more humane slaughtering of animals.

The Committee obtained information concerning this matter from many towns, and heard opinions from an official of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and a deputation of the Local Butchers' Association. After prolonged consideration a Resolution was passed to adopt Bye-laws for the purpose of enforcing the use of a mechanically operated instrument for stunning animals before slaughter. This Resolution was not adopted by the Council.

PUBLIC SLAUGHTERHOUSES. - The Public Slaughterhouses were established in 1868, and from time to time have been brought more up to date.

They are situated in Croft Road, and adjoin the Cattle Market, and are close to a railway siding.

The slaughterhouses, and arrangements for fasting pens, hanging of meat, etc; are now in good order.

All carcasses, meat, and offal of every description are inspected before removal from the slaughterhouses.

The following is the number of animals slaughtered during the three years ending March 31st 1923.:-

		Charges for Slaughtering	To March 31st. 1921. 1922. 1923.		
Number of	Beasts	1s. 6d.	1096	781	938
"	Sheep	5d.	4120	3479	4078
"	Calves	9d.	184	359	726
"	Pork Pigs	9d.	935	2433	2771
"	Bacon Pigs	1s. 6d.	256	274	218
			6591	7326	8731

	1921	1922	1923
Amounts received for Slaughtering	£214. 1. 0	£258. 4. 8.	£312. 15. 3

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS & MILKSHOPS. - The Milk & Dairies (Amendment) Act 1922, came into operation (except Section 3) on September 1st, 1922.

Under the new Act two Registers must be kept, one of retail purveyors, and the other of all other persons registered under the Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops Order of 1888.

At the end of 1921 there were 64 persons on the Register, but at

the end of 1922, that Register contained 83 names, a very considerable increase.

On the New Register of retail purveyors there are 80 names, 3 of these persons have Cowsheds in the City, and 21 have their premises outside the City. There are on the 2nd Register, 3 names of producers who have farms in the City and do not retail the milk.

The above Act empowers the Local Authority to refuse to enter any person on the first of these Registers, or to remove him from that Register if they are satisfied that the Public Health is or is likely to be endangered by any act or default of his in relation to the quality, storage or distribution of milk.

Section 3 of the Act which came into operation on January 1st, 1923, empowers the Ministry of Health to lay down the conditions under which licenses to sell graded Milk may be obtained. The grades mentioned are Certified Milk, Grade A (tuberculin tested) Milk, Grade A Milk and Pasteurised Milk.

So far (four months after the Order has been issued) no application has been made for a license to sell milk under any of these designations by any one retailing Milk in the City.

FOOD.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT - The total number of samples submitted to the Analyst in 1922 was 153. Of these 100 were taken under the Sale of Food & Drugs Acts, and 53 were test samples.

Of the 100 samples taken under the Act, 93 were certified to be genuine and 7 as adulterated. Of the 53 test samples, 48 were certified to be genuine and 5 as adulterated.

	1920		1921		1922	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Analyses	97	45	92	61	100	53
Adulterated	7	4	5	2	7	5
Adulterated per cent	7.2	9.3	5.2	3.2	7.0	9.4
Amounts of Costs and Fines	£6. 1. 0d.		£ Nil		£16. 5. 0d.	

The adulterated samples were all of Milk. It is very unfortunate that Milk, which should be the one article of food that ought to be delivered to the homes pure and wholesome, should be found to be the only one adulterated. The conditions under which Milk is handled from the time of milking to its consumption is, in many cases, very unsatisfactory.



MILK.

65 Samples were taken under the Act, 58 proved to be genuine, and 7 were below the standard of the Board of Agriculture.

The following action was taken as regards these 7 samples.

Sample No. 22 was deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 3.5 per cent. Three samples taken direct from the cows were all slightly deficient in non-fatty solids, so no further action was taken.

Sample No. 32 taken at place of delivery was found to be deficient in fat to the extent of 6.6 per cent. Samples taken direct from the cows at the farm proved to be well above the standard. The Vendor was prosecuted and fined £2, and £1. 1. 0 costs.

Sample No. 31 was deficient in fat to the extent of 3.3 per cent. As Vendor had purchased milk from the same farm no action was taken.

Samples Nos. 33 & 39. These samples were taken on successive mornings. Each was deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 17.6 per cent. The Magistrates inflicted a fine of £2 in each case.

Sample No. 40. This sample was taken at the place of delivery in connection with samples Nos. 33 & 39, and was found to be deficient to the extent of 6.6 per cent in fat, and 17.6 per cent in non-fatty solids. Samples taken direct from the cows proved to be well above the standard. The farmer was fined £2, and £1 costs.

Sample No. 47 was deficient in fat to the extent of 16.6 per cent. The Vendor was fined £5, and £1. 1. 0 costs.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK & CREAM) REGULATIONS 1912 & 1917.

Report for the year ended 31st December 1922.

1. Milk and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream.

	(a)	(b)
	No. of samples examined for the presence of a preservative.	No. in which a preservative was reported to be present.
Milk	81	-
Cream	2	-

2. Cream sold as Preserved Cream.

(a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label as to preservative were correct.

1. Correct statements made	...	5
2. Statements incorrect	...	-
		<u>5</u>

(b) Determinations made of milk fat in cream sold as Preserved Cream.

1. Above 35 per cent	...	5
2. Below 35 per cent	...	-
		<u>5</u>

(c) In one instance the type on the label "Not suitable for Infants or Invalids" was of smaller size than that shown in the Schedule of the Regulations.

The Vendors were warned.

UN SOUND FOOD. - During the year the following food has been destroyed as being diseased, unsound or unwholesome.

Tuberculosis.

CATTLE. 8 carcasses and organs.
19 heads & tongues.
All organs of 14 cattle.
11 lungs.

PIGS. 6 carcasses and organs.
24 heads & organs.
12 heads.

CALVES. One carcass & organs.

Other Diseases.

CATTLE. 3 carcasses & organs.
9 heads & tongues.
All organs of 8 cattle.
6 lungs, 51 livers, 5 tripes.

SHEEP. 16 carcasses & organs.
26 livers.
11 lungs.

PIGS 10 carcasses & organs.
16 organs.

CALVES. 4 carcasses & organs.

FROZEN MEAT. 613 lbs. MEAT. 570 lbs. FISH 1110 lbs.

RABBITS. 6. FOWLS 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ couple. POTATOES 28 cwts.

191 tins of Fruit, Fish, Condensed Milk etc.

The total weight of food condemned was 8 tons 2 cwts 57 lbs. With two exceptions this food was voluntarily surrendered by the respective owners.

Two summonses were instituted against one Butcher for having on his premises for the purpose of sale, two sides of pork which were diseased.

He was fined the maximum penalty, namely; £20 and costs in each case, total, £42. 2. 0.



PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

SMALLPOX. - No case of this disease was notified during the year. The Smallpox Hospital in the Tolladine Road is always ready to receive patients.

SCARLET FEVER. - A considerable number of cases of Scarlet Fever of a mild type were notified, nearly one-half during the last Quarter of the year. The total number of cases was 115, of which 8 were secondary and 4 return cases. There were 94 persons admitted to the Hospital, being 82% of the notified cases.

No death from Scarlet Fever occurred.

The disease was widespread through the City. The 68 children who were attending the Elementary Schools, came from 31 different departments.

The case rate per 1000 of the population was 2.31. The case rate for England & Wales was 2.85.

DIPHTHERIA. - There were only 54 cases notified during the year, as compared with 107 in 1921. Forty-six patients were removed to Hospital i.e. 85%. Three deaths occurred, two of very young children who required Tracheotomy, and the third was a girl of 7 years who had been ill for 4 days before the disease was recognised.

Of the 54 patients, 10 were adults and in 2 instances the disease was contracted outside the City; 17 were children under School age, and 27 were School children.

The Medical practitioners took swabs of the throat or nose for bacteriological Examination from 245 persons. Of 237 swabs taken from the throat, 46 were positive and 191 negative as regards the diphtheria bacillus. Of 38 nasal swabs, 11 were positive and 27 negative. Including these and swabs taken in the General Infirmary Wards and those taken at the City Hospital for discharge of patients a total of 776 swabs were taken during the year.

The case rate per 1000 of the population was 1.15. The case rate for England & Wales was 1.37.

TYPHOID & PARATYPHOID FEVER. - One case of each of these diseases was notified during the year. The patients were both children. The home conditions were carefully examined and no cause was found to account for the illness.

Both of the patients were nursed at home and made good recoveries.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS, CEREBROSPINAL FEVER, ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA. - No case of either of these diseases was notified during the year.



THE PUBLIC HEALTH (PNEUMONIA, MALARIA, &C.,) REGULATIONS, 1918.

In accordance with these regulations there were 65 persons notified as suffering from Acute Primary Pneumonia, of whom 16 died; and 20 persons with Influenzal Pneumonia, of whom 6 died. The following Table gives the grouping in age periods and the deaths in each age group.

	Age - under 5	5 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65	Total
Acute Primary Pneumonia	21	19	9	8	8	65
deaths	6	3	1	1	5	16
Influenzal Pneumonia	2	2	10	3	3	20
deaths	1	1	2	1	1	6

Three of the children who died were under one year of age.

It will be seen how great the mortality is in the very young and very old.

In the first Quarter of the Year 27 deaths were registered from Epidemic Influenza and five others during the Year.

MALARIA. - One case only was notified, an exservice man who contracted the disease in India in 1916.

TUBERCULOSIS. - There were 114 primary notifications of Tuberculosis received during 1922. Of these 92 were of Pulmonary and 22 of other forms of Tuberculosis.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS. - Of the 92 persons 44 were males (including 13 exservice men) and 48 females. Twenty of these persons died before the end of the year, 6 within a month of notification, and eleven others in less than 6 months from that time. These persons had the disease so advanced when notified that no measures taken by a Local Authority could have saved their lives. A large number of these persons were admitted to Hospital and died there, and by this action the risk of infection to others in their houses was avoided.

The Chief Medical Officer in his Report to the Ministry of Health for the year 1920, after pointing out that the main source of infection is the expectoration of advanced tuberculous cases, says "The real danger to human beings is massive or prolonged infection, sufficient to overpower the forces of natural resistance. Whilst therefore it is essential to recognise the infectious or subinfectious nature of tuberculosis, it is undesirable to exaggerate the danger of ordinary daily intercourse under satisfactory conditions, between healthy people and consumptives. With the exercise of due care on both sides the consumptive need not, as a rule, be of danger to those associated with him."

There is a great difference in the infectivity of persons suffering from this disease. In some cases there is no risk of infection, in others the risk is small, but in cases where the person has advanced disease of his lungs, the danger is much increased, especially so where the home is a small



one and the surroundings unfavourable to recovery. It is very desirable that all such cases should be removed from their homes for Hospital treatment. It will be noted that 16 such persons died at Newtown Hospital during the year.

A reasonably intelligent person who has resided in a Sanatorium has been trained to avoid spreading infection, if he or she is infectious, and such a person need not be shunned in ordinary human intercourse.

But we know that the main factor in the avoidance of disease is the natural resistance of the individual to infection. This varies much, and maintenance of health in all persons means the power of resisting the attacks of disease. This natural resistance can be lessened by unwholesome living conditions, such as overcrowding, want of sunlight in the homes, insufficient food, and continued anxiety due to unemployment. All these factors have been in operation for a long time, and it will be surprising if, in the years to come, there is not an increase in the number of cases of Tuberculosis.

In the Table giving the Summary of Notifications during the Year will be found the number under Age periods and the deaths that occurred before the end of the year.

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS. - There were 22 cases notified as follows:-

	<u>Number.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Glands.	5	-
Bones & Joints.	6	1
Spine.	4	1
Abdomen.	2	-
Meninges of Brain.	4	4
Other organs	1	-

Of these patients, four were treated in the Wards of the General Infirmary, one in an Army Hospital, and three at Newtown Hospital.

Notification of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis has been compulsory during the last ten years. The average annual number of notifications during the five years 1913-17 was 33 and the average annual number of deaths was 13. During the five years 1918-22 the numbers were 22 and 10 respectively. This shows a considerable reduction in the cases and of the deaths.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis is caused either by infection from advanced pulmonary cases, or from the drinking of cows milk infected with bovine tuberculosis, so that its decrease depends on the decrease of these two causes. Hence the removal of advanced pulmonary cases from homes where isolation is impossible, and the improvement of the milk supply of the whole country are necessary for the decrease of the many forms of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The Table on page 17 shows the sexes and numbers under age periods.



PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1912.

Summary of Notifications for the year 1922.

Ages.	No. of Notifications on Form "A".													No. of Notifications on Form "B."		No. of Notifications on Form "C."	
	Primary Notifications.													Total Notifications on Form "B."	Total	Poor Law Institutions.	Sanatoria.
	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and up	Total.	Under 5	5 to 10	10 to 15		
Pulmonary.																	
Males	1	6	1	6	9	6	8	5	...	2	44	45	...	...	...	1	42
Deaths .....	...	...	...	2	2	3	2	1	...	2	12						
Females .....	...	4	5	7	10	12	2	3	1	3	47	48	...	...	1	2	44
Deaths .....	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	2	...	1	8						
Non-Pulmonary.																	
Males	1	2	...	1	4	1	...	1	...	1	12	14	...	...	...	...	8
Deaths	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3						
Females .....	...	3	...	2	1	...	2	...	...	...	10	10	...	...	...	...	3
Deaths .....	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	4						

NOTE.—The deaths occurred during the year 1922.



THE TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY. - is open 3 times a week on Monday and Tuesday afternoons at 3 p.m., and on Friday evenings at 7.30 p.m. for the patients who are at work.

The number of persons seen was 325, and they made 1167 attendances. Of the 325 persons 117 were under 16 years of age. In addition to the notified cases, 58 persons were seen and examined who had been in close contact with a notified case; of these 17 were adults and 41 children. Ten other persons were sent by medical men for consultation and after examination reports were sent to the medical men.

The Tuberculosis Nurse is zealous in her endeavours to prevent the spread of the disease in the homes, and helps the poor who may be sufferers by many friendly acts, outside her official duties.

RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS.

KNIGHTWICK SANATORIUM. - The Council retain 10 beds at this institution, 5 for men and 5 for women.

On January 1st, 1921, there were in residence 4 men (2 being exservice men) and three women. During the year 12 men were admitted (7 being ex-service men with one death) also 12 women, and 2 girls, one of the latter being a non-pulmonary case.

NEWTOWN HOSPITAL. - The admissions and discharges during the year are as follows :-

	Men	Boys	Women	Girls
In residence on 1/1/22	8	-	7	1
Admitted during year	26	7	24	6
Discharged	34	7	31	7
Died	22) 29 7)	6	15) 24 9)	6
In residence on 31/12/22	5	2	7	1

Of the total of 34 cases 15 were Exservice men, and of those 7 died.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (VENEREAL DISEASES) REGULATIONS 1916.

The Scheme adopted by the Council in 1917 continues in force. There are two Clinics for males and two for females held each week on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.

The Medical Officer of the Treatment Centre, in his return to the Ministry



of Health of the work done during 1922, supplies the following information:-

	Syphilis		Gonorrhoea		Conditions other than Venereal		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Persons under treatment on January 1st, 1922	79	71	147	10	104	39	330	120
New patients during 1922	19	23	29	3	22	13	70	39
	98	94	176	13	126	52	400	159
Persons who ceased to attend before completion of treatment	17	13	24	6	-	-	41	19
Discharged after completion of treatment	30	23	30	18	-	-	60	41
Persons under treatment or observation Jan.1st 1923	43	50	118	15	-	-	165	68
Total attendances of all persons at the Out-patient Clinic	452	446	726	29	38	47	1216	522

Of the 42 patients seen for the 1st time in 1922 suffering from Syphilis, 22 resided in the City; of the 32 patients with Gonorrhoea, 16 resided in Worcester.

The total cost of the Treatment Centre at the General Infirmary for the Year was £1063. The amount payable by the City was £600 of which the Ministry of Health provided 75%.

The specimens sent from the City for bacteriological and pathological examination numbered 136, 109 from the Treatment Centre, and 27 from the General practitioners. The cost of these examinations was £31.

There is still a considerable proportion of persons who abandon treatment before infection has been removed. During 1922 17% of the men and 14% of the women who had Syphilis, behaved in this foolish way; also of the persons with Gonorrhoea 13% of the men, and 50% of the women ceased attendance at the Clinics while in an infectious state. It is also to be noted that only 3 new cases of gonorrhoea in women came for treatment during 1922, a small proportion of the number suffering from this disease. This reluctance of women to seek help at the Clinics for the cure of gonorrhoea has been shown ever since the work has been established. This is most unfortunate as the after effects of the disease are in many cases most disastrous.

The object of the establishment of these Clinics is to prevent the spread of disease by curing it in the individual affected, and to prevent the many after effects of syphilis which causes disabling illnesses, premature death, and great loss to the community. But so long as a considerable proportion of the patients who are receiving skilled and free treatment at the expense of the tax-payer and rate-payer, may abandon treatment before a cure is effected to that extent is the expenditure wasted. By what method can the



continued attendance of the patients at the Clinics be obtained?

At the City Council held on the 19th November 1918 the following Resolution was passed nem. con :-

That the Local Government Board be requested to bring in Legislation :-

(a) To require the notification to Health Authorities of all patients suffering from venereal disease, who, without adequate cause, discontinue treatment before it is completed.

At a Conference held at Birmingham on 28th October 1922, this matter of modified notification was discussed, and the opinion was generally expressed that the threat of this notification would in a large majority of cases be efficacious in obtaining attendance until the cure was completed.



MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFAREBy Dr. Marion B. Andrews.

Sir George Newman in his Annual Report for 1921 as Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health, says "It is becoming almost a platitude to refer to the health of the mother and child as the basis of the health of the community, yet we can never escape this fundamental issue." He continues, "As I said last year, complete arrangements for maternity and child welfare would include the following :-

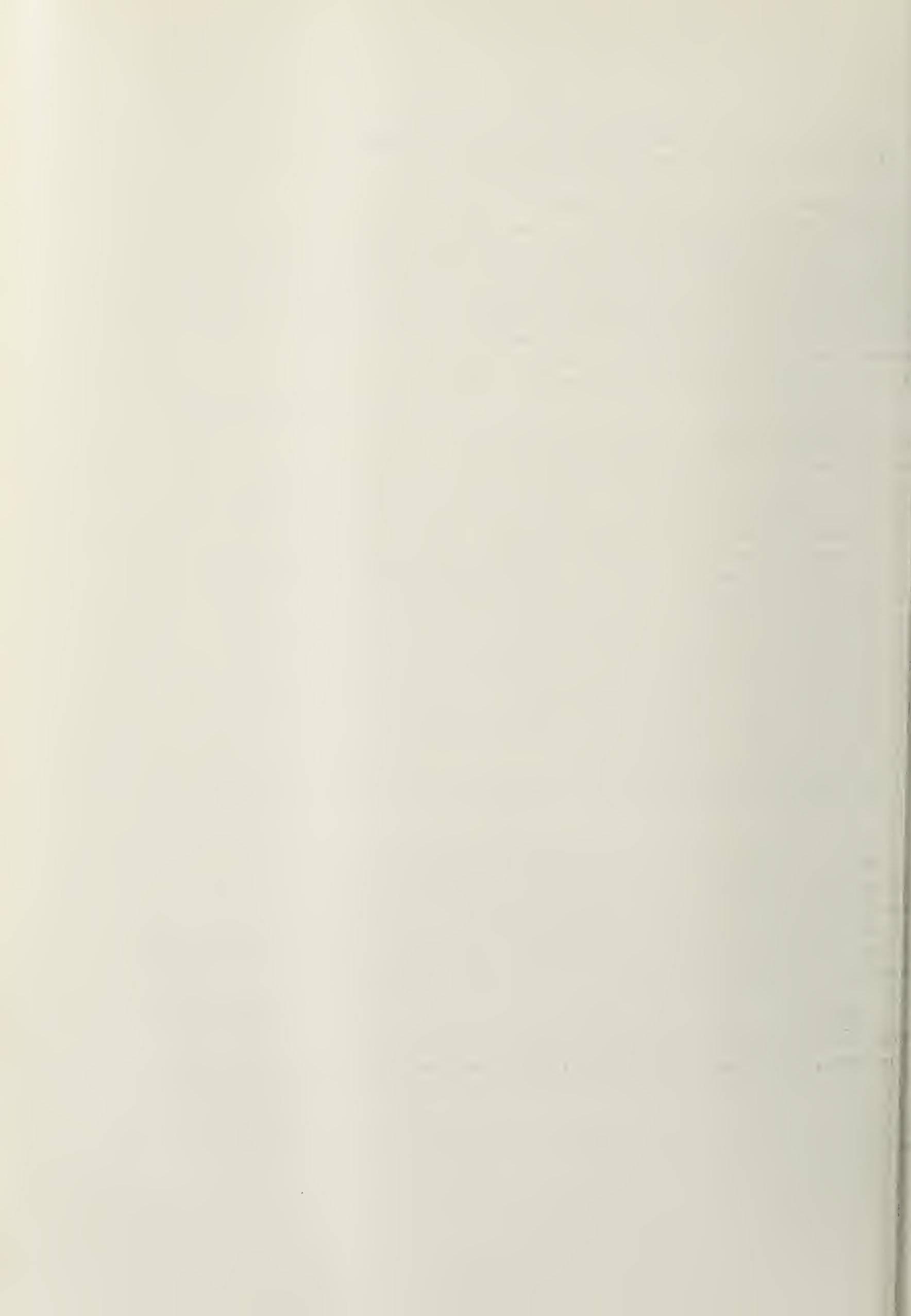
MATERNITY WORK :-

- (1) Antenatal care and nutrition of the mother, through Antenatal Centres or otherwise
- (2) An adequate medical, midwifery and nursing service for childbirth.
- (3) Domestic aid before, at the time of, and after childbirth (including maternity benefit).
- (4) Maternity home and hospital accommodation.
- (5) Homes for unmarried mothers and their infants.

INFANT WELFARE :-

- (1) Notification of births and still-births.
- (2) Home visiting.
- (3) Infant Welfare Centres.
- (4) Infant Treatment Centres, Observations Wards and Hospitals.
- (5) Day Nurseries; Homes for healthy babies."

As there is as yet no standardised form for use in reporting Maternity and Child Welfare work I have arranged this report in line with the above classification, but numbering the headings consecutively from 1 to 10, and prefacing the whole with a brief account of the Staff, Scheme of Work, and Premises.



STAFF. - This consists of a Medical Officer, four Health Visitors, one full-time Clerk, and one half-time Clerk.

Since July 1919 the Assistant M.O.H., Dr. Mary Mitchell, had been Medical Officer, devoting most of her time to this branch of the Public Health Work. But in July of this year a change was made. Dr. Mitchell resigned for private reasons, and on account of the present great need for economy the Council decided not to appoint another officer in her place, but to divide her work between the M.O.H. and the S.M.O. I therefore as S.M.O. took over the Maternity and Child Welfare work, arranging to give four-elevenths of my time to it, retaining seven-elevenths for the School Medical Work. This naturally necessitated a complete re-arrangement of the work.

SCHEME OF WORK. - During the first six months of the year this followed the lines described in last year's Report. Dr. Mitchell gave practically her whole time to this branch of the Public Health Service, being present at the Centre for the greater part of each morning, and also attending a Clinic every afternoon. On taking over the work in July I was only able to arrange to be at the Centre from 12.0 till 1.0 each day, and to give two afternoons weekly - Tuesday and Wednesday - for holding Clinics, with some additional hours' work on days when the elementary schools are having holidays in excess of my own holiday allowance. To deal with the work in my absence and assist in details of organisation Miss Wood, the senior Health Visitor, was made Superintendent, and in order that she might have more time available for work at the centre, her District was decreased. This alteration, with the appointment on August 1st, of a new Health Visitor, Miss Steel, in place of Miss Mason, who left in June to take up a post in the County, gave an opportunity for some re-adjustment of the areas of the four districts into which the City is divided for health visiting purposes, in the hope of securing greater equality in the nature and amount of work to be done by each Visitor.

The arrangements in connection with the Clinics had also to be re-adjusted. The four Weighing Clinics, and the Friday afternoon Class for Mothers were retained, but the special Ante-Natal Clinic was given up. Special Medical Clinics were established on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, at which the M.O. attended to see both mothers and children referred to her by the Health Visitors. Full details of the new arrangement are given under headings (1) Ante-natal care and (8) Infant Welfare Centres.

PREMISES. - Although seriously inadequate to the growing needs of the work, 54, Lowesmoor continues to serve as headquarters. There are only four available rooms in this building, besides a comfortable room in the semi-basement where the dinners are served for the mothers. Of these four rooms, the lower front one is used in the morning by the Milk Clerk, in the afternoon as a waiting room, and all the time by the Health Visitors, for whom suitable tables for their writing work have been provided. The room behind this serves the M.O. both as office and for the holding of her special clinics, including of course the examination of ante-natal cases who have to undress and dress in it. The upstairs front room is used for the Mothers'



Class and the Weighing Clinics, which are excessively crowded, and the room behind is the clerk's room, where also Virol and Codliver Oil are stored and given out. As no hot water is laid on the washing of hands during clinics has to be reduced to a minimum hardly consonant with modern ideas.

MATERNITY WORK.

(1) ANTENATAL CARE AND NUTRITION OF THE MOTHER. Special attention is paid by each Health Visitor to all expectant Mothers whom she may come across in her own district. During the first half of the year a special Clinic was held weekly by the M.O. for these cases, but during the second half year they were asked to attend the Medical Clinic for the district in which they lived, and did so quite willingly. In fact, they seem to prefer this arrangement, possibly as being less conspicuous than attending a special Ante-natal Clinic, many of them coming up ostensibly to seek advice about the last baby and then being led on to speak of their own condition. Out of 125 ante-natal cases seen by the M.O. during the year, 60 attended for the first time during the last quarter of the year. Several were sent by their midwives on account of alarming or peculiar symptoms, and after examination a special written report was sent to the midwife in charge.

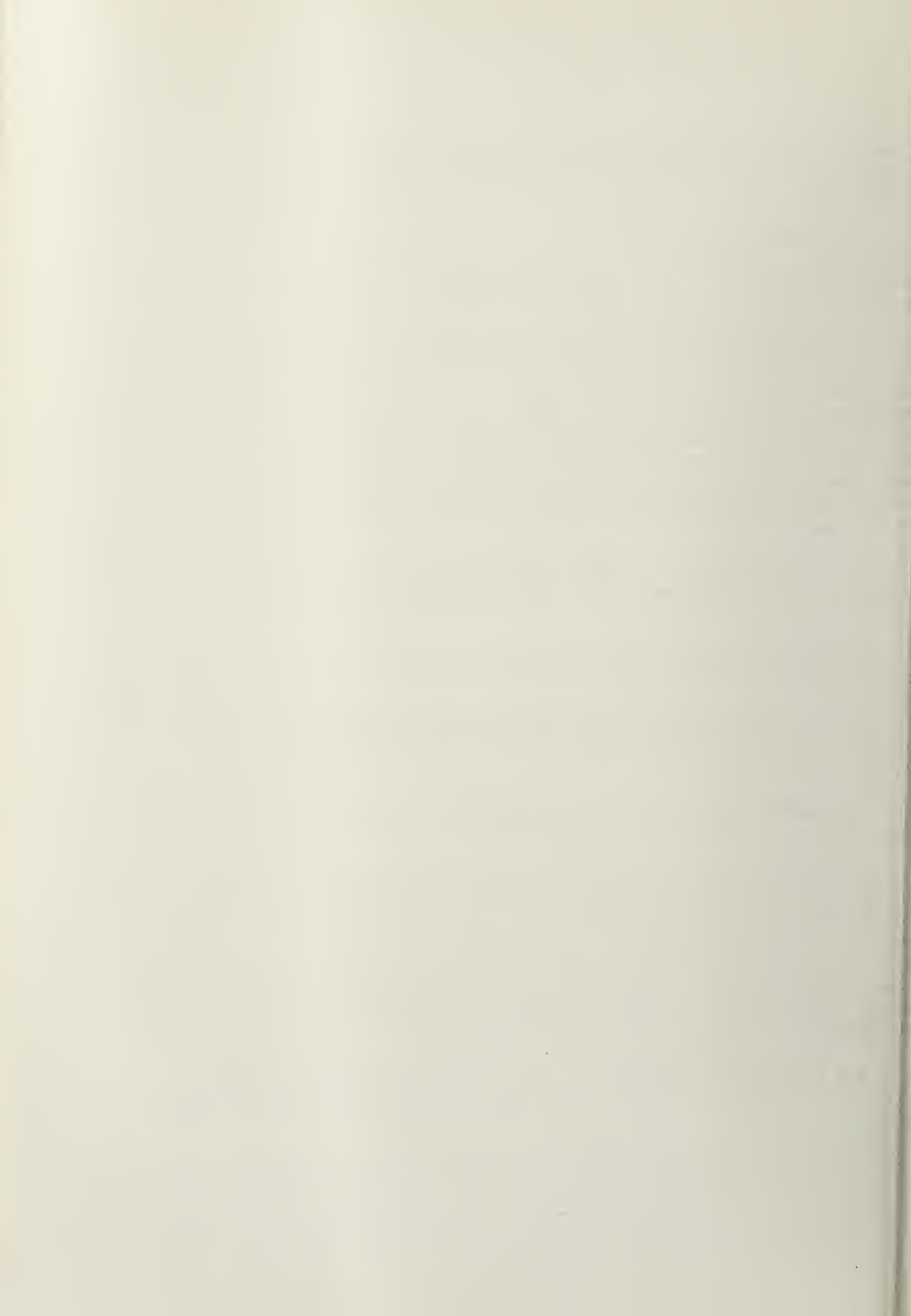
Milk and dinners were supplied in necessitous cases, i.e. those where the income per head per week after deducting the rent did not exceed 6/-. In accordance with the Ministry of Health's requirements neither dinners nor milk can be supplied before the last three months of pregnancy, but in very necessitous early cases the Infant Health Society kindly paid until the seventh month was reached.

The dinners were provided by the Infant Health Society at cost price, and were cooked and served at the Lowesmoor Centre, for 1/3d, which was towards the end of the year reduced to 1/- a head. For this a meal of meat, potatoes and vegetable, with suet pudding, milk pudding, or fruit tart, was given, excellent in quality and abundant in quantity. An average of 13 to 14 women were fed daily, six days a week, the total meals for the year being 4107, and the cost £253. 8. 9.

The Mothers were unanimous in their testimony to the benefit resulting both to their own health, and to their ability to breast feed, and to the health and weight of the new baby, and this was confirmed by the observations of the Health Visitors.

We are indebted also to the Infant Health Society for a supply of surgical appliances, particularly elastic stockings and abdominal belts for needy mothers.

In October the Health Committee united with the Education Committee in appointing a half-time Dental Surgeon, one day (two sessions) weekly being reserved for the treatment of expectant or nursing mothers, children under five, and tuberculous cases. Owing to delay in fitting up the Clinic,



however, very little work was actually done before the end of the year beyond providing dentures for four cases whose teeth had already been extracted.

Miss Wood continued her Class for Mothers on Friday afternoons. This is the only occasion on which direct teaching is definitely given, and is extremely popular. There were 703 attendances at the 38 classes. Miss Wood gave talks on a great variety of subjects, combining with these as far as possible practical instruction. Amongst the subjects dealt with were the physiology and hygiene of pregnancy, which proved to be of greater interest and better understood than was at first expected, and gave opportunity for much wholesome advice and plain speaking on matters which urgently need ventilation. The care and nursing of the various diseases of infancy and childhood was also thoroughly taught, actual cases of illness occurring amongst the children of those attending the class being often made the text for the talk, while practical results were noted in several cases where the mothers afterwards nursed sick children with great success on the lines inculcated.

A Thrift Club was also run in connection with the Class, by means of which the women could save small sums weekly to be drawn out, with a bonus added, for special occasions.

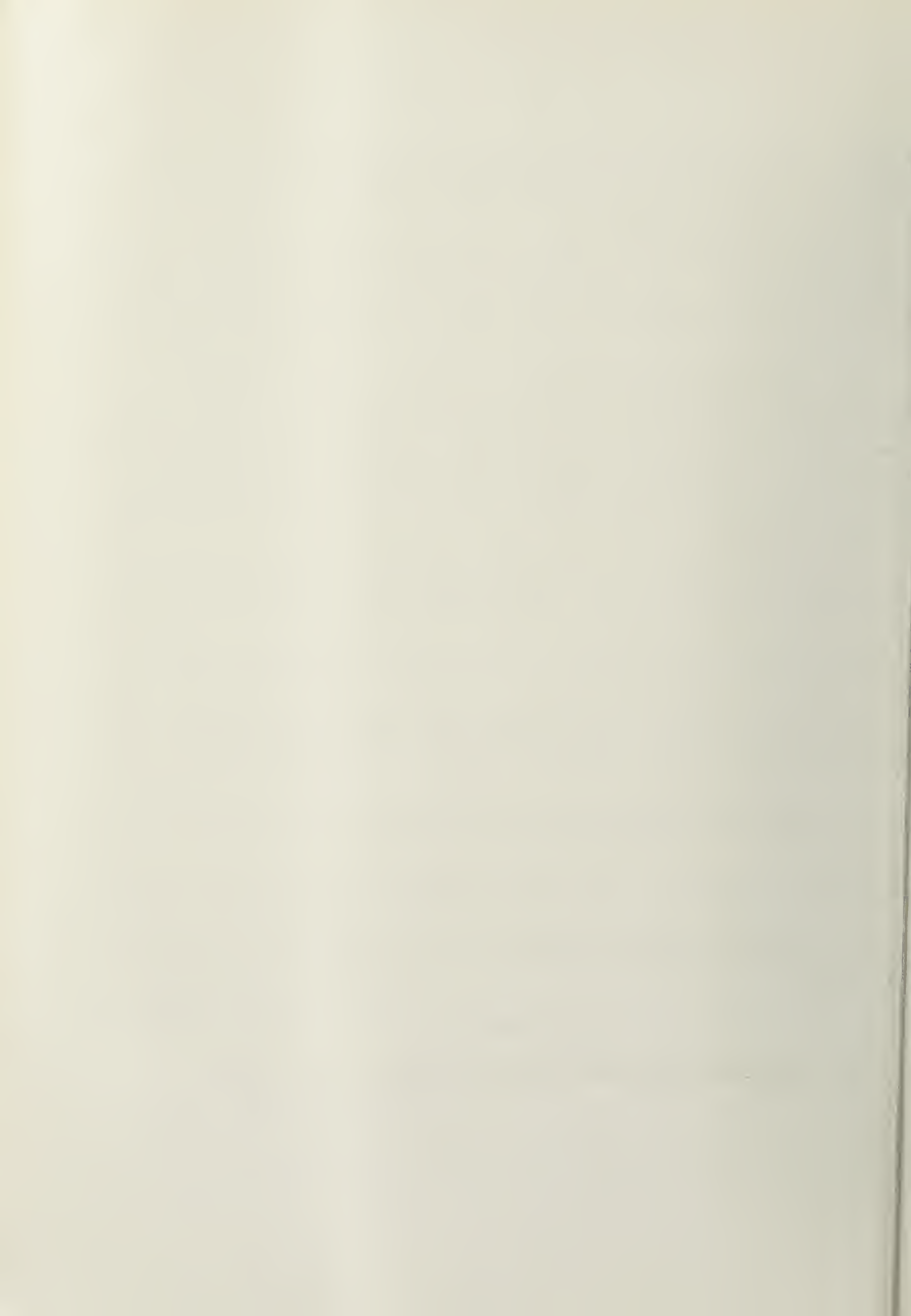
Miss Moore very kindly gave up the afternoon to assisting Miss Wood in this most important work.

(2) MEDICAL AND MIDWIFERY SERVICES FOR CHILDBIRTH.- 14 Midwives notified their intention to practise, and were inspected under the regulations of the Central Midwives' Board.

Of the 957 live births notified, 858 were notified by midwives, who also notified 16 of the 26 still births.

Medical assistance was sent for 168 times on account of the mother and 62 times on account of the child. This is just double the figures for 1921 (80 and 30), but against this increase must be set the results. We have exact figures for one detail only, i.e. 29 still births this year against 42 in 1921, but it may serve as an index of improvement in the care of child birth, of which the increased number of times help was sent for should be regarded as proof. It is the careful, not the careless midwife, who summons the doctor, and summons him in time.

The recovery of the fees or part of them, paid by the Council to medical men summoned by midwives, and to the midwives themselves in certain extremely necessitous cases, was taken over by this Department in January of last year. The work is difficult and not in line with the other work, and more especially, with the aims, of a Child Welfare Centre, and the result has hardly been commensurate with the energy and time expended.



However, there has been a decided improvement in the amount recovered. There were 111 claims received from Doctors during 1921, according to last year's Report, for £177. 2. 0., and £3. 17. 6 was recovered. The Midwives made 47 claims for fees which amounted to £33. 5. 0. During this year 85 claims from Doctors for £132. 1. 0., and 59 claims from Midwives for £46. 17. 0 were paid, giving a total of 144 claims for £178. 18. 0. The Committee remitted payments either in whole or part to the amount of £123. 19. 6., leaving £54. 18. 0 to be recovered. Of this £29. 1. 0 had been collected by the end of the year, and 9 persons are still paying small weekly sums.

(3) DOMESTIC AID AT THE TIME OF CHILDBIRTH : - Home Helps were supplied as heretofore, either to assist in the care of the family while the mother was in bed, or where this was not required, to do the washing, always a heavy item of the week's work in the poorer homes, and more especially so after a confinement. Every care is taken to ensure that the help is really needed, and for this reason it is stringently required that all arrangements as to name of help, period for which she is to be engaged and remuneration must be made, and entered on our books, before the confinement takes place. There can be no doubt of the great boon this is to the mother of the family, enabling her to take her 10 day's or a fortnight's rest after confinement without feeling that arrears of washing are piling up to be dealt with when she is again "getting about", or that the other children are being neglected. The usual period of help is two weeks, but this is extended to three or longer if anything abnormal occurs to make it desirable to keep the mother longer in bed. Only 23 were supplied during the year at a cost of £13. 19. 0., on account of the reduction in the estimate, but this is a benefit which might with advantage be doubled, or even quadrupled, last year's total of 52 at a cost of £42 being a much more useful figure.

(4) MATERNITY HOME AND HOSPITAL ACCOMODATION : - Maternity work is seriously handicapped by the absence of any special home or hospital. Maternity cases are admitted to the General Infirmary if absolutely requiring aid, and the Maternity and Child Welfare scheme embraces the provision of payment for such cases if necessary. None were admitted at our charge during the year.

(5) HOMES FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS : - There is no provision for this. Individual cases are referred to the Diocesan or other Rescue Workers to deal with.

INFANT WELFARE.

(6) NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS AND STILL-BIRTHS : - There is still a discrepancy between the number of births notified in the year, and the number registered. The work of the Infant Welfare Department is of course based on the notified births. With few exceptions every live-birth notified is visited by the Health Visitor in whose district it occurs on the eleventh day, or as soon as possible thereafter, and every still-birth notified is immediately investigated.



There were 957 live-births and 28 still-births notified during the year. Of these

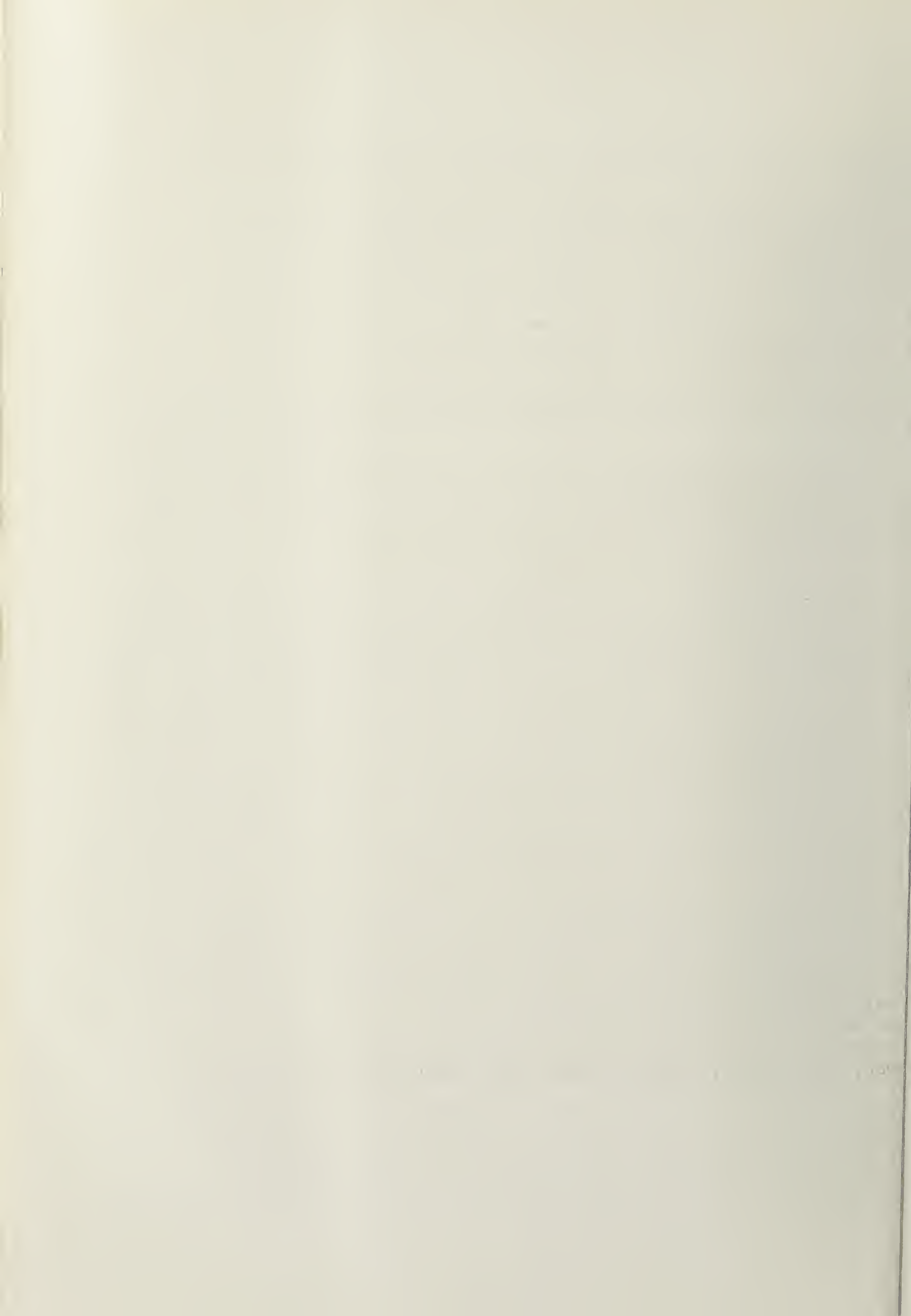
Midwives notified	858	live-births	and	16	still-births.
Medical men "	62	"	"	8	"
Maternity Nurses"	16	"	"	1	"
Parents "	12	"	"	0	"
Master of Workhouse"	4	"	"	2	"
H.S. at Infirmary "	2	"	"	1	"
The Registrar "	3	"	"	0	"

Of the 28 still-births 2 occurred in houses of a class not usually visited, and in a third case no admission could be obtained. Of the remaining 25 cases the cause of the still-birth could not be ascertained in 5, while in 5 cases it was attributed to influenza, in 2 each to syphilis, prematurity, contracted pelvis, and haemorrhage, and 1 each to tumour, kidney disease, a fall, and "delicacy" of mother. In three cases the cause was given as abnormal position of foetus, one footling, one uncomplicated breech and one breech with extended arms.

(7) HOME VISITING : - This is carried out by the four Health Visitors, each in her own district. With the exception of a few births occurring in houses where a visit would appear to be unnecessary and might be considered impertinent, every house where a birth has occurred is visited on the eleventh day, i.e. on the day after the midwife or doctor has normally ceased attending. In a certain number of these houses it is at once obvious that further visiting is not required, and the first formal visit is confined to a few friendly words and an intimation that should the mother at any time feel she would like any further advice she has only to call at, or send to the Centre. In the other cases visiting is continued as often as may be thought necessary, till the child becomes five years old. First visits paid to infants on or about the eleventh day numbered 923; the total visits to infants under one year being 4166, and to children from one to five years, 6356.

Besides these visits others are paid to expectant mothers and to dental cases, while the enquiries into still-births, infant deaths, cases of ophthalmia neonatorum etc., and the investigations in connection with the recovery of midwifery fees add largely to the work, a total of 15,553 cases seen on the district having been registered for the year, giving a daily average for each Visitor of 15 or 16.

Of the value of this constant friendly supervision there is no need to speak. The mothers welcome it, and theory inculcated at the Centre can be driven home with greater force amidst the child's normal surroundings. It is noteworthy that gastro-enteritis and epidemic diarrhoea as causes of infant mortality have almost disappeared from the returns, chiefly I believe because constant teaching has at last given most women some idea of its seriousness, of the need to grapple with the first sign of diarrhoea, and of how to do it. Pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia unfortunately still claim



a large toll, causing no less than 12 of the 65 Infant deaths. But prematurity still heads the list with 23 deaths under one year, 20 of these occurring during the first fortnight. Indeed it is one of the discouraging features of the work to find that practically one half of the death rate we are striving so hard to reduce occurs during the first 14 days, the larger part of it during the first 10 days. During the year under review 24 infants died while the midwife was still in attendance, and 5 more during the next 4 days, giving 29 deaths during the first fortnight, against 36 during the rest of the year. It is, of course, natural that premature infants should tend to succumb early, but the great success which has attended the practical instruction of the mother in the special needs of such children in some cases which have survived long enough to come under the fostering care of a Health Visitor, makes it appear possible that this cause of death might also be greatly decreased in the future.

(8) INFANT WELFARE CENTRES : - A brief reference has already been made to the arrangement and re-arrangement of these.

The four weighing Clinics, one for each District supervised by the Health Visitor for that district, have been held weekly throughout the year, three at the Lowesmoor premises for the North, Central and South Districts respectively on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, and one for the West District in St. Clement's Parish Room.

Mothers and toddlers are welcomed at these meetings as well as infants, who are weighed weekly, fortnightly or monthly according to age and health. Where any form of milk is being supplied it is a stringent rule that the infants shall be weighed at least fortnightly, and the Milk Clerk is instructed to see the Weight Card before giving out the milk tickets or dried milk. This, together with the forms of enquiry which has to be filled in by the mother and father, and the statements on which as to wages are checked where necessary by reference to the Employers, and as to home surroundings by reference to the Health Visitor, reduced I believe any abuse of this service to a minimum. The income scale employed is that already described, for free milk, while a modified charge is made where the income exceeds 6/- a head but is under 10/-. Over 10/- cost price is charged. Very occasionally a temporary exception is made to the above regulations either for medical reasons, or to meet a sudden emergency, but only under careful safeguards.

At these Clinics clothing is on sale at cost price, and our most grateful thanks are due to the Voluntary helpers who not only make the clothing, but assist to sell it, and also assist to keep registers, weigh babies, and often help mothers and children in matters outside the purview of public health work and do many other kind and helpful actions. We are specially indebted for regular and devoted assistance to Miss Ballard, Mrs Cole, Miss Glenny, Miss Hyde, Miss Jacomb, Miss Zoe James, Mrs. Powell and Mrs. A. Spreckley.

During the early part of the year Dr. Mitchell was in attendance during each session, and a large number of mothers and children who attended the Weighing Clinics came in also to see her, but with the cutting down of the work this had to be abandoned. Instead the Medical Officer arranged to hold two separate Clinics each week, attended in turn by the four Health Visitors



who endeavoured as far as possible to refer to the Clinics at which they were to be present cases, whether women or children, from their own District or Weighing Clinic. This means that while there is still a Weighing Clinic for each District weekly, there is a Medical Clinic only once a fortnight, on alternate Tuesdays for the West and South, and on alternate Wednesdays for the North and Central Districts respectively. Urgent cases are, of course, sent up on either afternoon, and if necessary can always be referred to me between 12.0 and 1.0 daily. But the advantages of these separate Clinics are that overcrowding is somewhat reduced, definitely sick mothers and children are kept apart from the others, the Health Visitor is at liberty, and can confer with the M.O. about each case, giving a report and hearing what is advised, and the M.O. has more time and peace for examinations and instruction.

The alteration has led to a little difficulty in preparing the statistics of attendance, as these had necessarily to be on a somewhat different basis during the second half of the year from that employed during the first half. The new arrangement will I hope make it possible in the future to give statistics in greater detail and of greater value, but for this year the later figures have been adjusted to the earlier in order to obtain an homogenous total.

The total number of children who attended the Weighing Clinics was 442, the total visits made by them being 4345. Of these the M.O. saw 278, who made 1479 visits. The Ante-natal cases numbered 151, paying 382 visits, of whom the M.O. saw 135, paying 251 visits.

(9) INFANT TREATMENT CENTRES, OBSERVATION WARDS & HOSPITALS: AND

(10) DAY NURSERIES: HOMES FOR HEALTHY BABIES.

There is nothing to record under either of these headings, and the work is undoubtedly seriously handicapped by the absence of even any special out-patient department for sick children at the General Infirmary.

Under these circumstances it is sometimes rather difficult to refrain from prescribing treatment at the Centre, but every effort is made to bear in mind the italicised statement of Sir George Newman that the Ministry of Health "do not desire treatment to be given at the ordinary infant welfare centre, the main functions of which should be the supervision of the healthy infant and the education of the mother. If any treatment is given at an ordinary session it should be incidental only and intended to remove some temporary ailment for which a well-to-do mother would not think it necessary to call a doctor..... There should be no giving of prescriptions, and no sale of bottles of medicine as a routine practice, even when these are paid for at cost price."

Sick mothers and children are invariably referred to their own doctor for treatment. Where they have none they are given a Letter either for the Infirmary or for the Dispensary, in the latter case every persuasion being exercised to get them to keep up their subscriptions once they have joined, and in this connection I wish to thank all those who have kindly provided



Subscribers' Letters, for which we have almost unending need, chief amongst them being the Infant Health Society, Canon and Mrs. Wilson, and Alderman and Mrs. Carlton.

In conclusion we have most heartily to thank Mrs. Duncan, who in November and December gave massage to several children with very marked benefit in each case; Mr. Southall, who during his mayoralty gave a tea to over 500 of our mothers; Alderman Carlton who invited all the mothers to a special performance at the Silver Cinema; Mrs. A. Spreckley, who provided a tea for the mothers attending the Class; and Mrs. Edwards for welcome gifts of fruit.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

A. Visits paid by Health Visitors on District :-

To Expectant Mothers	(1) First Visits	...	306
	(2) Total Visits	...	621
To Infants under 1 year	(1) First Visits	...	923
	(2) Total Visits	...	4166
To Children 1-5 years	Total Visits	...	6356

B. Municipal Centres and Clinics.

At 54, Lowesmoor

Monday	2.30	45 Meetings	Average Attendance per Session	25 Children
Tuesday	"	39	" (Ante-Natal Clinic)	10 Mothers
Wednesday	"	43	"	25 Children
Thursday	"	36	"	33 Children
Friday	"	38	" (Class)	18 Mothers

At St. Clement's Parish Room.

Friday	2.30	45 Meetings	Average Attendance per Session	9 Children
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C. Infectious Diseases visited.

Ophthalmia Neo-natorum	31 visits paid.
Whooping-cough	44 " "
Epidemic diarrhoea	4 " "



INCIDENCE OF THE DISEASES THAT OCCUR AMONG WOMEN AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

1. PUERPERAL FEVER. No cases of this disease were notified during the year. There were two deaths of women registered from "Placenta praevia" and one of these occurred in the Wards of the General Infirmary.

2. OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM. Eight cases were notified during the year. Of these one infant died. The other seven all recovered without any impairment of their eyesight.

3. MEASLES & RUBELLA. No epidemic of either of these diseases occurred during the year and no deaths were registered from these diseases.

4. WHOOPING COUGH. The School Medical Officer reports that Whooping Cough was very prevalent among the school children during the year. Five deaths were reported during the first nine months of the year. Three of these were in Infants under one year of age.

5. EPIDEMIC DIARRHOEA. There were four deaths registered from Enteritis, all of them in infants. No epidemic occurrence of this disease took place in 1922.

The Nurses attached to the Nursing Institution, according to agreement with the City Council, nurse all cases of Epidemic Diarrhoea, Whooping Cough, Measles, etc., which were entrusted to them. This nursing has been a great boon to many of the mothers.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

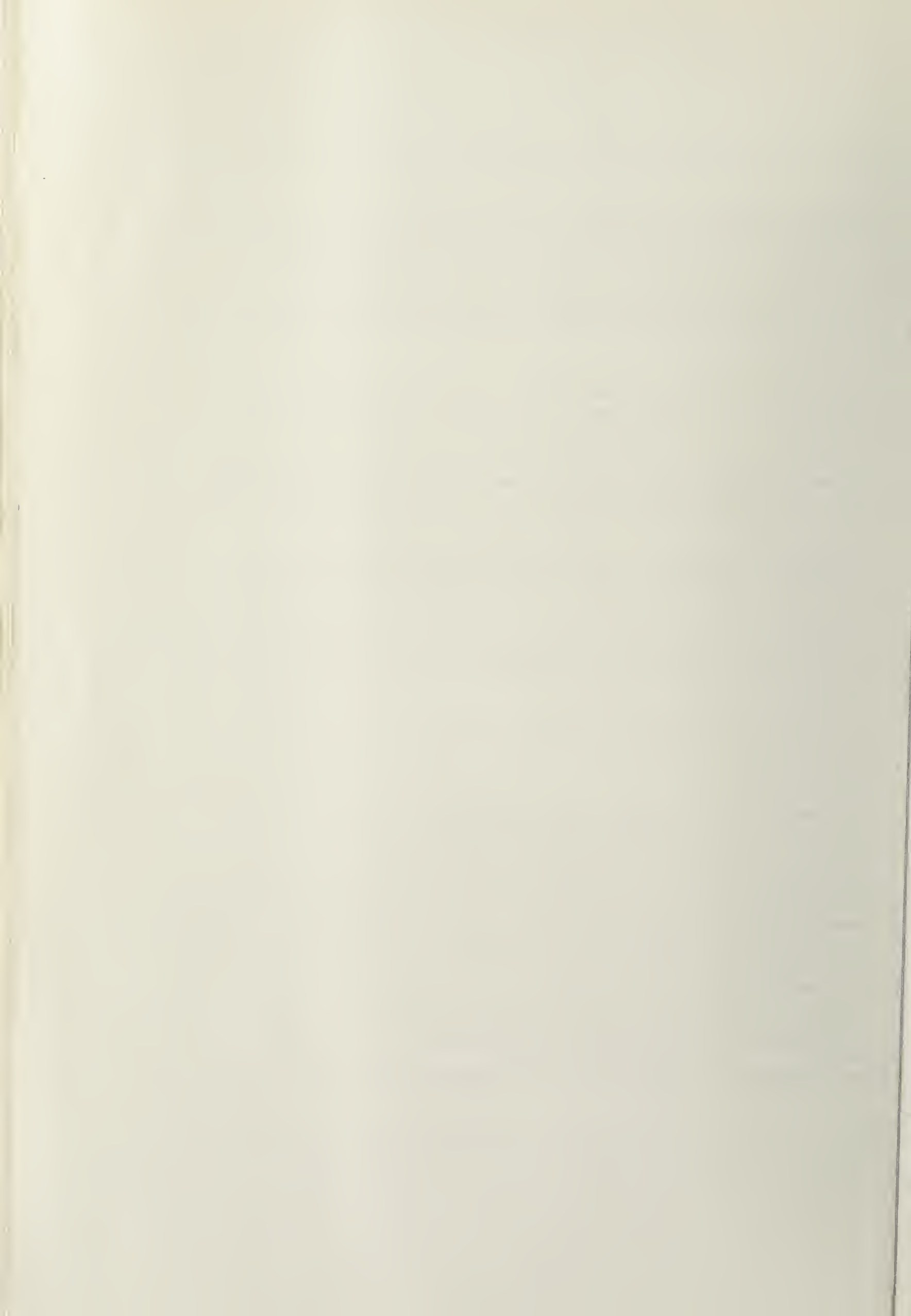
STAFF. - The Staff of the Health Department remains the same with the exception that since July 1st, 1922, Dr. Marion Andrews, who was full time School Medical Officer, has given four eleventhths of her time to the Maternity and Child Welfare work of the Health Committee. The whole of the Tuberculosis work and of the Hospital work is now in the hands of the Medical Officer, no part being undertaken by an assistant M.O.

THE CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS are made at the laboratory at the Shirehall as in past years.

The City Water is examined bacteriologically every week, and at other times as may be found necessary.

Swabs from throat or nose taken by medical practitioners numbered 275, and 501 were taken from patients in the General Infirmary, and in the City Hospital prior to discharge.

Specimens of sputum sent for examination numbered 238, 164 from Medical



Practitioners, and 74 from the Tuberculosis Officer.

HOUSING. - During the year the Health Committee inspected 93 houses in many districts of the City and various repairs were ordered to be done to these houses. Representation were made by the Medical Officer concerning two houses which were unfit for habitation and Closing Orders were made.

Of the 3 Closing Orders made by the Health Committee during the year 1921, one house was demolished and two others were converted into a workshop and store-place.

Of the 93 houses visited by the Health Committee 74 have been repaired or are in course of being repaired.

Everyone knows the great urgency of building more houses in the City. The overcrowding is in many cases very bad, and in most cases the persons overcrowded have made every effort to obtain better accommodation and have failed, so that to take action against them would have been a cruel act.

Not only are these conditions very bad from a health point of view, but in many cases there can be no privacy, nor the common decencies of home life and the effect on the morality of the persons thus suffering is likely to be very detrimental. In these, and all other unwholesome conditions, the young children are those that suffer most as they are more susceptible than adults to all such bad surroundings.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :-

(a) Total	....	....	....	....	....	....	115
(b) As part of a municipal housing scheme	....	....	....	....	....	....	111

1. Unfit Dwelling Houses.

Inspection (1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1292
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910....	461
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation....	30
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonable fit for human habitation.	843

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	495
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3. Action under Statutory Powers.

4. Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning etc, Act, 1919

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit :-	
(a) by owners - work now being done	Nil.
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	Nil.

5. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

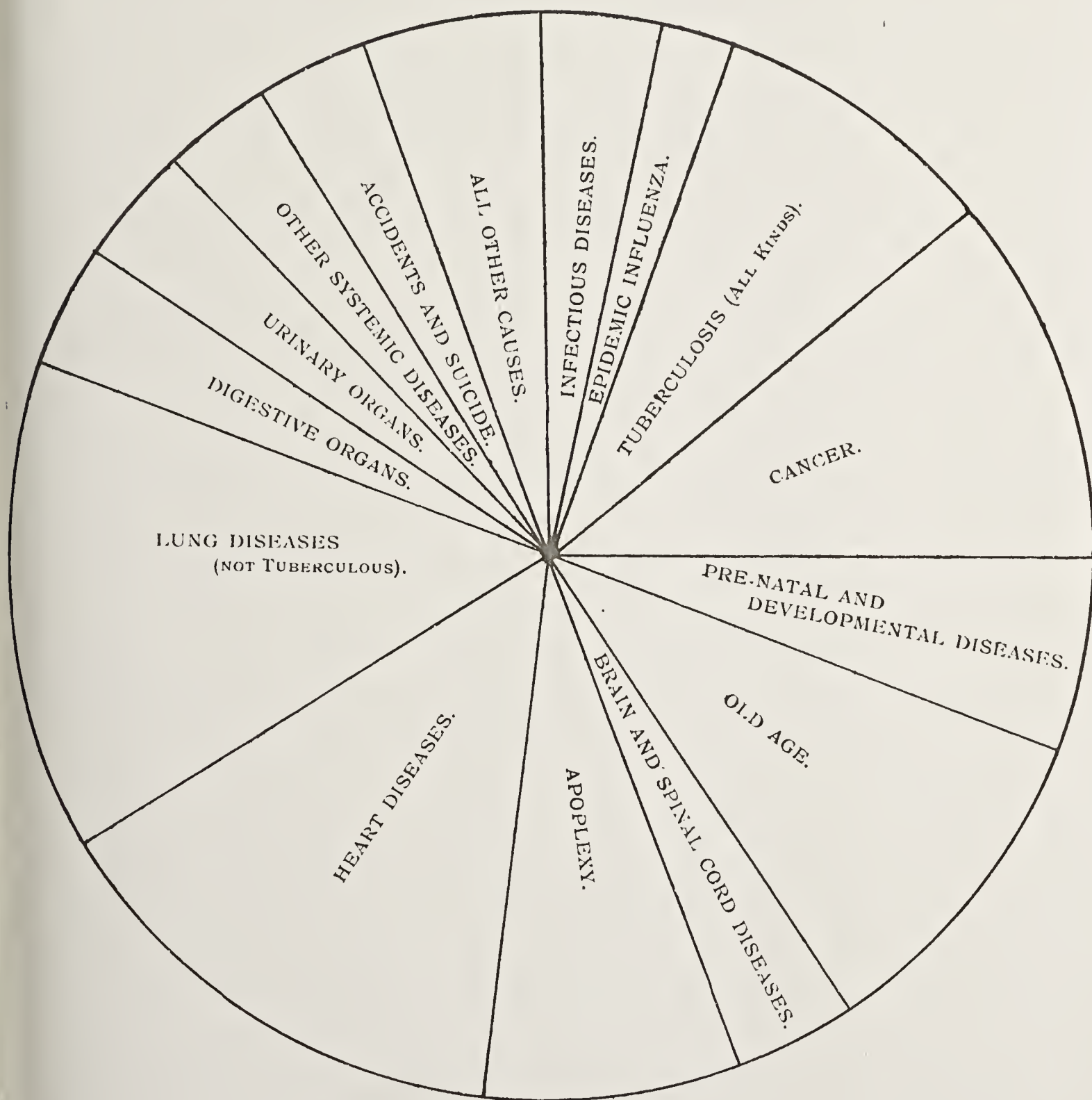
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	358
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied :-	
(a) by owners	382
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.

6. Proceedings under Secs. 17 & 18 of Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	2
(2) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2
(3) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit	Nil.
(4) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil.
(5) No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil.



Diagram showing the proportion of deaths in various diseases to the total deaths occurring during the three years 1920, 1921, 1922.



This diagram shows approximately the proportion of deaths of some diseases and of groups of diseases that occur from year to year. It will be noted what a small proportion of the causes of death come under the cognizance of the Local Authority, only the Infectious Diseases, Tuberculosis and Pre-natal and Developmental Diseases. In all of these, prevention of the spread of disease is striven for, and in the last group the education of the mother and child in general and personal hygiene is the constant care of those carrying on the Maternity and Child Welfare work. This last is the most useful as its aim is the production of a healthy child population, the most important asset of any country.



TABLE I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1922 AND TEN PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.			TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.				
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number	Rate.	Number	Rate.	of Non-Residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number	Rate.							Number	Rate per 1000 nett births	Number	Rate.
1	2	3			6	7	8	9						
1912	48,152	1009	1010	20·97	634	13·16	57	23	76	75	600	12·46		
1913	48,287	930	930	19·25	711	14·72	54	29	83	89	686	14·2		
1914	48,424	994	1000	20·6	732	15·11	28	24	88	88	728	15·03		
1915	48,071	995	1000	20·16	699	14·09	30	31	83	83	700	14·11		
1916	48,459	878	882	18·2	654	13·5	44	33	69	78·2	643	13·3		
1917	49,000	771	773	15·7	692	14·1	69	54	50	64	677	13·8		
1918	49,000	792	800	16·3	783	16·0	64	66	48	60	785	16·0		
1919	49,000	817	815	16·6	670	13·6	62	38	50	61	646	13·1		
1920	49,248	1141	1142	23·2	679	13·8	57	19	77	67	641	13·01		
1921	49,160	989	993	20·1	643	13·1	65	26	60	60·4	604	12·3		
1922	49,240	970	975	19·8	715	14·5	70	20	65	67	685	13·5		



INFANT MORTALITY 1922. NETT DEATHS FROM STATED
CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Nett Deaths	{ legitimate infants	60
in the year of	{ illegitimate infants	5



I.
YEAR 1922.

No.	CAUSES OF DEATH.	AGES.													All Ages.
		0-	1-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	85-	
1	Small-pox														
2	Measles.....														
3	Whooping-cough	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
4	Epidemic Influenza	I	2	...	2	...	I	2	5	2	4	7	5	I	32
5	Scarlet Fever.....														
6	Diphtheria.....	I	I	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
7	Enteric Fever														
8	Paratyphoid Fever														
9	Diarrhoea, Dysentery														
10	Epidemic or Zymotic Enteritis														
11	Enteritis	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	5
12	Rheumatic Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Cerebro Spinal Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
13	Erysipelas														
14	Puerperal Fever														
15	Syphilis.....	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	3
16	Pyæmia.....	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	2
17	Tuberculosis of Lungs .....	...	...	...	...	5	6	14	9	6	I	2	I	...	44
18	Tuberculosis of Meninges	I	2	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
19	Abdominal Tuberculosis														
20	Tuberculosis of Bones and Joints ...	...	I	...	I	3	...	I	...	...	I	...	...	...	7
	„ General ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
21	Alcoholism														
22	Gout														
23	Osteo Arthritis.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	I
24	Cancer .....	...	...	...	...	...	I	I	2	14	15	20	7	...	60
25	Diabetes Mellitus .....	...	I	...	...	I	...	...	...	I	...	2	...	...	5
26	Anæmia.....	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	I	I	I	...	...	4
27	Premature Birth	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
28	Injury at Birth.....	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
29	Congenital Defects	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
30	Debility at Birth	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
31	Marasmus	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
32	Old Age.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	40	23	66
33	Apoplexy .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	6	15	12	4	41
34	Meningitis.....	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
35	Convulsions	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
36	Softening of Brain .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	7	8	...	16

